

## ABSTRACT

Process for the production of  $ZnCl_2$  from a Zn bearing primary and/or secondary material comprising the steps of reacting the Zn bearing material with a chlorinating agent such as  $Cl_2$  to convert metals into chlorides and vaporising the volatile components of the reaction product at a temperature between the melting point of said reaction product and the boiling point of  $ZnCl_2$ , thereby recovering a Zn rich chlorinated melt, and thereafter distilling  $ZnCl_2$  from this Zn rich chlorinated melt, thereby recovering purified  $ZnCl_2$  and a Zn-depleted chlorinated melt.